

**Candia Conservation Commission**  
Approved  
Meeting Minutes – March 15, 2011

Present: Susan Wilderman, Dennis Lewis, Deb Levesque, Betsy Kruse, Ellie Davidson, Judi Lindsey, Dick Snow, Dave Ickes, Rick Lazott and Pat Larkin. Guest Bill Nichols

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Commission introduced themselves to guest Bill Nichols. Mr. Nichols is a Senior Ecologist/State Botanist with the NH Natural Heritage Bureau and lives on Tower Hill Road in Candia.

**Regular Business**

**Minutes of February 15, 2011** meeting were reviewed and the following revisions made: Under *Guest addressed the Commission*: Line 8: Remove the word *only*. Line 18: Change the word *trading* to *treating*. **B. Kruse motioned** to accept minutes as amended, seconded by E. Davidson. D. Snow abstained. All others were in favor. Motion carried.

**Conservation Land/Easement Acquisition Status-**

- Siemenski Easement: D. Lewis spoke with the Siemenski family and they are very discouraged with the easement process. First, they were not encouraged by the Selectmen's response to the proposal made previously. The family wants both parcels put into an easement as Neil Siemenski requested. The BOS agreed to one of the parcels, which is not adjacent to town conservation land. Another consideration is the amount of time that has passed since the process began; too much time as elapsed and property values have decreased. Discussion ensued regarding different perspectives on what is considered valuable in a piece of property. One perspective being that land has value if it can be developed; another is the value that undeveloped land lends to the future of the ecological well-being of the town.
- D. Snow gave the easement information/materials to C. Bowman and asked him to inform the Commission if he is interested.

**Wetlands Permit Applications** – No permits were received.

**Land Use, Wetlands, Enforcement Issues, and Planning Board** – J. Lindsey reported:

- Planning Board received the Commissions letter of concern regarding the Brown Rd. /Old Candia Rd. (parcel 413.46) subdivision plan.
- The updated Open Space Plan will be discussed at the April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Funds are needed before they can consider the tasks of updating the Master Plan. Judi will inquire how they plan to incorporate the Open Space Plan and NRI into the Master Plan.
- D. Snow reported that there has been discussion between DES and the Sohas regarding the quality of the dam at Soha Pond. DES inspected the dam and concluded that repairs need to be made; this is being disputed by the Sohas. They are currently negotiating with DES about leaving the existing dam and doing maintenance on it. They may attend the next Conservation Commission meeting.

**Correspondence** – The following items were available for review:

- *The Source* Newsletter
- Advertisement for a new book by UNH Professor John Carroll, *Pastures of Plenty: The Future of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Conservation In New England*
- Saving Special Places 2011 workshop brochure and registration form. Those interested in attending this event on April 9, 2011 must register by April 7<sup>th</sup>. Receipts can be turned in for reimbursement.
- April 1-2, 2011 The Northwood Area Land Management Collaborative (NALMC), Bear-Paw, the Friends of Northwood Meadows State Park, and the Northwood Conservation Commission are hosting a weekend about Aldo Leopold. It will feature a workshop, fieldtrip and a premiere showing of *Green Fire* - a new documentary on Aldo Leopold's life.

## **Budget Update/Approval of Outstanding Payments/Invoices** – Nothing new to report

**Conservation Commission Website** –S. Wilderman reported that Joe Miele has agreed to continue to work on the CCC website, though he is not renewing his membership on the Commission.

**D. Snow motioned** that the Conservation Commission recommend to the Board of Selectmen that Alternate Member Dave Ickes be appointed as a full member to replace Joe Miele for the length of his term, seconded by E. Davidson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**D. Snow motioned** that the Conservation Commission recommend to the Board of Selectmen that members Dennis Lewis and Susan Wilderman be appointed to another term, seconded by E. Davidson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Lamprey River Watershed Association** – D. Snow reported that the four rivers that were being brought forward for protection were passed in the House and are now going to the Senate for approval.

## **Old Business**

**Bear-Paw Status Report** – B. Kruse reported:

- Newsletter will be out soon
- S. Wilderman is writing an article for the newsletter about the Deerfield Road property

**Forest Management / Management Plans for Town Land** – D. Snow hopes to meet with C. Moreno prior to the April meeting.

**Commission Properties Access Planning and Requests** – There were no request submitted.

**Stewardship of Properties** – S. Wilderman reported that the snowshoe walk on the Fogerty Road property was cancelled due to inclement weather but will be rescheduled for late spring. B. Kruse suggested a hike to Kinnicum Pond be scheduled in late summer and she agreed to contact Dick Weeks regarding this hike. It was decided that planned hikes will be posted on the website.

## **Other Business:**

- J. Lindsey reported that the Candia Garden Club and Go Green Club at the Moore School are selling compost bins, rain barrels and scrap pails. The order form will be posted on the website.
- It was the consensus of the Commission to ask the Board of Selectmen if they are interested in hosting an “All-town Board Meeting”; a reply would be appreciated prior to the April meeting. If the BOS decides not to host a meeting, the Commission may consider organizing one.
- The warrant article asking voters if the CCC should do a Prime Wetlands Study did not pass. It was decided that the next step for the Commission would be to review the completed NRI and make some decisions on what needs to be done and what direction to go in next. The NRI may help prioritize areas that need to be looked at more closely and help define the value of these pieces. Guest Bill Nichols stated that there are some newly revised methods of looking at this data; he has a handbook with information if anyone is interested in exploring further.

**J. Lindsey motioned** to adjourn at 8:06 pm, seconded by D. Levesque. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Pat Larkin, Conservation Commission Secretary